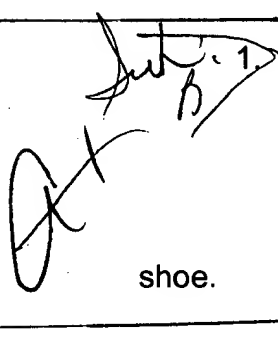



Serial No.: 09/268,412

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 3 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend claims 1 and 4 as follows:

 (Amended) A method for decorating a shoe, comprising:
wetting a stick-on tattoo; and
applying the stick-on tattoo to a smooth portion of an outer surface of the
shoe.

 4. (Amended) A method according to claim [3] 1, wherein the smooth
portion of the outer surface of the shoe is comprised of polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4 to 20 are now pending in the application with claims 1 and 11 being the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 3, 5, 7, 8 to 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent 5,421,765 (Lehmann); claims 1 to 11 were rejected under § 103(a) over Lehmann in view of U.S. Patent 5,136, 726 (Kellin); and claims 12 to 20 were rejected under § 103(a) over French reference 764,103 (Penataro) in view of Lehmann.

Withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested for the following reasons.